

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 795

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of William O. "W.O." West, Jr., of Oneida.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of William O. "W.O." West, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, W.O. West was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. West was born in Oneida on May 7, 1932, to the late William O. West, Sr., and Lucy Burchfield West; and

WHEREAS, with an unwavering sense of duty and patriotism, W.O. West proudly served in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, for almost thirty years, Mr. West served with acumen and alacrity as a science teacher within the Oneida Special School District, in which position he earned the respect of his students, colleagues, and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work while teaching physics, biology, and chemistry; and

WHEREAS, after retiring in 1983, W.O. West became an active member of the Oneida Kiwanis Club and the Scott County Retired Teachers Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. West was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church-Oneida, which he served faithfully for many years as the teacher of the Median Adult Men Sunday School class; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, W.O. West will be fondly remembered by his loving wife, Shirley Smith West; his sons and daughters-in-law, Jeff and Gin West and Mike and Jean West; his

grandchildren, Josh West and Rachel Knight; his great-grandchildren, Meghan, Audrey, Deonna, Elaine, Ethan, and Scott; his sister Imogene Smith; his nephew, Marvin West; his in-laws, Rochelle King, Sue Smith, and Rob Smith; his special girls, Kailyn Hill and Abby Hill; and his many other relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, Mr. West was preceded in death by his sister Maxine Kyle, and his brother-in-law, Muril Smith; and

WHEREAS, W.O. West leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of William O. "W.O." West, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. West.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.